

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 7

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FINDETT CORPORATION SUPERFUND SITE

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PUBLIC MEETING

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TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

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The Public Meeting convened via
Videoconference, at 6:00 p.m. CT, Pamela Houston,
Community Involvement Coordinator, presiding.

PRESENT

PAMELA HOUSTON, Community Involvement
Coordinator, Region 7, EPA
RANDY BROWN, Community Involvement Coordinator,
Region 8, EPA
CATHIE CHICCINE, Site Attorney, EPA
TRI KNOKE, Region 7, EPA

MICHAEL PROBST, Region 7, EPA

KELLY SCHUMACHER, Human Health Risk Assessor,
EPA

CLINT SPERRY, Remedial Project Manager, EPA

CATHIE WOOSTER-BROWN, Ecological Risk Assessor,
EPA

ALSO PRESENT

LORENA LOCKE, Missouri Department of Health and
Human Services

ANDREW McKINNEY, Missouri Department of Health
and Human Services

ERIC MEDLOCK, Public Drinking Water Branch

CHINWE NDUBUKA, Missouri Superfund Section

DENNIS WAMBUGUH, Missouri Department of Health
and Human Services

VALERIE WILDER, Missouri Superfund Section

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

6:00 p.m.

MS. HOUSTON: Good evening, everyone.

My name is Pamela Houston, and I am the Community Involvement Coordinator for the Findett/Huster Road Substation Site. I am happy to serve as the moderator for this evening's meeting.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to convey information and for EPA to listen to input that will be responded to in a Responsiveness Summary made available this summer.

Please ensure the volume on your computer, tablet, laptop or mobile device is muted, low or off depending on the device to avoid any feedback for yourself and others. At this time all lines should be muted.

Type yes in the conversation meeting chat box if you are listening through your computer and can hear my voice, located at the top of your screen.

Now I will turn the meeting over to our technical expert to highlight a few features

1 while using Microsoft Teams, including how to
2 enable the closed caption features. Mike.

3 MR. PROBST: Good evening. My name is
4 Michael Probst. I am the Team's technical lead
5 here in Region 7. I am about to give you just a
6 quick overview of the Team's platform if you
7 haven't used it before.

8 By default we have set all microphones
9 for attendees to be disabled upon entry. Once
10 the meeting is open for questions those
11 microphones will be enabled. You can see in the
12 upper left image that the microphone is disabled.

13 If you do have a question during the
14 meeting, you can actually enter that through the
15 chat if you're using the Teams platform.

16 Depending on whether you're using the web
17 platform or the desktop platform will depend on
18 where this bar is located.

19 If you are using the web platform, the
20 bar will be located in the middle of your screen.
21 If you're using the desktop version it'll be in
22 the upper right-hand corner.

1 Once the meeting has been opened for
2 verbal questions, we will enable microphones and
3 you will notice your microphone will show up as
4 being enabled but muted.

5 We do ask that you raise your hand
6 prior to asking a question. There is a raise
7 hand button in your bar. So if you raise your
8 hand you will be called upon in order of being
9 raised. At that time, you can unmute your
10 microphone and ask your question.

11 Again, at any time during the meeting
12 you can submit your questions through the Q&A.
13 The closed captioning will be available through
14 the triple dots in the middle of the screen. I
15 do apologize, I did not get a screenshot of that.

16 And that is only available on the
17 desktop platform. So if you click the triple
18 dots in the middle of the screen you can enable
19 closed captioning if you need that. I will turn
20 it back over to Pam.

21 MS. HOUSTON: Thanks, Mike. Please be
22 sure that your line is muted for those of you

1 that may have joined a few minutes late.

2 If you're experiencing technical
3 difficulties online, please type the issue in the
4 conversation chat box and someone from our
5 technical team will assist you.

6 Please hold all questions until the
7 end of the presentation, and you may type them in
8 the chat box at any time. We will address as
9 many questions as time allows for at the end of
10 the presentation during Q&A.

11 All significant comments will be
12 addressed in the Responsiveness Summary available
13 this June and that can be found at the site
14 profile page at the following address
15 www.epa.gov/superfund/findettcorp.

16 If you are listening online, please
17 type your name and affiliation. For example,
18 Jane Doe, Resident, followed by your question,
19 comments in the conversation chat box.

20 If you're listening by phone you will
21 have an opportunity to unmute your phone line,
22 state your name and affiliation and please spell

1 it. There is a Court Reporter online tonight
2 taking dictation for the record.

3 Once you spell your name and
4 affiliation, state your question or comment.
5 After you have stated your question or comment,
6 please mute your line. And with that, we'll go
7 ahead and get started.

8 Are there any members of the press
9 available on this call that have joined us? If
10 you are a member of a press, please raise your
11 hand online and I guess you can't unmute.

12 So we'll look in the chat box or the
13 hand raise. Okay. I don't see any media. If
14 you are a Congressionalist, if you are a
15 Governor, a Mayor, Senator, could you identify
16 yourself at this time by raising your hand or
17 typing in the chat box so we can acknowledge you
18 in attendance of this meeting?

19 Okay. Not seeing any. All right. If
20 you're asking what does a Community Involvement
21 Coordinator do, well we're responsible for a
22 number of things. Including engaging with

1 communities affected by Superfund Sites.

2 Conducting meaningful involvement and
3 keeping the public informed of planned activities
4 and encourage public involvement and most
5 importantly to listen.

6 We also share available resources to
7 the community that aid in the comprehension of
8 technical documents, how to form a community
9 advisory group and more.

10 If you would like additional
11 information on the suite of TASC, T-A-S-C,
12 Technical Assistant Services for Community
13 products, feel free to reach out to me for
14 details.

15 EPA's regional staff help communities
16 get involved by providing educational materials,
17 site information, technical assistance and other
18 supports.

19 Once again, my name is Pamela Houston,
20 and I am the Community Involvement Coordinator
21 for the Findett Corporation Superfund Site. Let
22 me introduce you and turn the meeting over to

1 Clint Sperry, the Remedial Project Manager for
2 the Site. Clint.

3 MR. SPERRY: Thanks, Pam. Thank you,
4 everyone, that is calling and participating
5 online. I am the Remedial Project Manager for
6 the Superfund, for the Corporation Superfund
7 Site.

8 And I've been with the EPA since 1991,
9 so big 30 years this year, and no, I'm not
10 retiring this year if anybody's questioning that.
11 I've been in the Superfund program since 19 --
12 wow, since 2007.

13 And I've been on this site since 2014.
14 So that's my history, Pam, as you know, she is
15 the Community Involvement Coordinator. Randy
16 Brown, he's our EPA Hydrogeologist. He's been on
17 this project for a couple years I believe and
18 he's doing a fantastic job.

19 Kelly Schumacher, she is our Human
20 Health Risk Assessor, and she's online on here
21 also. Along with Cathy Wooster-Brown, she's our
22 Ecological Risk Assessor. And Cathie Chiccine,

1 she is fairly new on the site.

2 I think she's been for a couple years,
3 she is our Site Attorney. Next slide. I need
4 the next slide please. There you go. So we also
5 have the State of Missouri, they are, they also
6 helped us with this site.

7 We have Valerie Wilder and Chinwe
8 Ndubuka, they're both Managers, Supervisors. We
9 used to have a Project Manager, Candice McGhee.
10 She retired last year and the State has not
11 replaced her yet, but Chinwe is stepping in and
12 helping us with the site.

13 Eric Medlock, he works in the drinking
14 water branch for the State and we also have
15 Department of Health and Senior Services by way
16 of Andrew McKinney. We have Dennis Wambuguh and
17 Lorena Locke. Next slide please.

18 Some of the things we're going to talk
19 about, we're going to briefly go over what
20 Superfund is, what is the remedial investigation
21 and the feasibility process.

22 We're going to talk a little bit

1 about, give a site background of the overall
2 site, the Findett Site and then specifically to
3 the Huster Road, Ameren Site.

4 We're going to talk a little bit about
5 the remedial investigation, the document that we
6 completed, a feasibility document that we
7 completed.

8 We're going to talk about the remedial
9 alternatives, and then we're going to discuss the
10 preferred remedial alternatives and that's why
11 we're here. And we're going to talk about what's
12 coming up next afterwards and then we'll talk,
13 have questions. Next slide please.

14 So EPA is overseeing the work at the
15 Findett Site. It's the overall site, we're doing
16 work at the entire Findett Site and along with
17 the Huster Road Substation. We're overseeing it.

18 We're not performing the work ourself.
19 Ameren is doing that. We're overseeing it and we
20 do that through a program called the
21 Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation
22 Liability Act, that's CERCLA.

1 Most people just call it the Superfund
2 Program. CERCLA, the Superfund Program is a
3 federal program, and what it is, we, anytime
4 there is a threat release or a release of a
5 hazardous substance that endangers the public
6 health or environment we get involved.

7 We characterize what type of
8 contaminant it is, we look at the nature and
9 extent of the contaminant for risk and what that
10 means is, is it a solvent, is it in groundwater,
11 is it in air, is it a-mile-long plume or is it
12 just underneath a substation?

13 So that's the extent of what it means
14 by nature and extent. And then we put that
15 information in a remedial investigation, all that
16 data and then from there we put together a
17 feasibility study.

18 And what that is, is we look at
19 different alternatives to be able to do a
20 remedial action that is acceptable to complete
21 the project.

22 And the results of the Findett/Huster

1 Road Substation, we've done that, we've put that
2 in a RI/FS and then this evening we're going to
3 be looking at those remedial actions and the
4 proposed plan. Next slide please.

5 The Findett/Huster Road Substation
6 Site, as you can see, it's a few miles north and
7 west of St. Charles, Missouri.

8 It's down in an alluvial area, meaning
9 it's where the river, the former river, Missouri
10 River and actually the Mississippi River is just
11 north of there. It's right between both of those
12 rivers and it's a great area for drinking water
13 wells. The next slide please.

14 This is another overview of the site.
15 At the bottom left-hand corner, you can see that
16 original Findett Site, and that's Operable Units
17 1 and 2. We'll go over this a little bit more
18 later.

19 And then in the middle of this figure
20 you can see the Ameren Huster Road Substation.
21 That's the Substation itself and then you, I have
22 several of the City Wells on there. We have City

1 Well 8, City Well 10, City Well 5, which is just
2 north of the Substation.

3 And that's one we'll discuss more in
4 depth in a little bit. City Well 6, City Well 7
5 and City Well 9, which is both north.

6 And groundwater flow goes roughly
7 north and yes, straight north and a little bit to
8 the right. North and northeast is the
9 groundwater flow direction. Next slide please.

10 The Findett Site was first, we found
11 out about it somewhere around 1984. We did a lot
12 of investigation, found out they had some PCBs,
13 they had chlorinated groundwater, contaminated
14 groundwater.

15 And it was at such a risk that we felt
16 we needed to put in on the National Priorities
17 List. That's our federal list to clean up
18 hazardous waste sites.

19 At that time, if there was a
20 functioning facility that was covered by another
21 jurisdiction, in this case it was the Resource
22 Conservation Recover Act, RCRA, we would not put

1 sites on the NPL list because we had an active
2 facility that was already being regulated by the
3 government, by the EPA.

4 And so it was never listed on the NPL.
5 However, we already had a ROD, a Record of
6 Decision that had been signed and a Consent
7 Decree that was already signed with the Findett
8 Corporation.

9 So we went ahead and EPA is still
10 managing that site as an NPL caliber site even
11 though it's not on the NPL. We still treat it
12 like it is on the NPL side. Okay, next slide
13 please.

14 The Findett Site, as I said, has been
15 split into four operable units. A lot of times
16 they split sites into different operable units to
17 help manage the sites. Sometimes there's
18 different remedies on each operable unit.

19 And sometimes there's different
20 responsible parties that are required to do work
21 in each one of those operable units. And that's
22 what the situation in this, at this site.

1 Operable Unit 1 is the original
2 Findett Site. There was a soil and groundwater
3 contamination and OU2, Operable Unit 2 was an
4 affiliate to Findett, which was right next door.

5 And what these facilities did, they
6 recycled heat transfer fluid and solvent
7 recovery, and so we just through poor operation
8 there was a groundwater plume, forming a
9 groundwater plume and a PCB plume that came from
10 that.

11 The source area is located underneath
12 Operable Unit 1 and Operable Unit 2, but the
13 downgrading as the contaminants went down into
14 the groundwater it flowed outside of the source
15 area within that property.

16 And it went into that field. Operable
17 Unit 3 addressed as the vat and from Operable
18 Units 1 & 2. Now Operable Unit 4, that's going
19 to -- that's the main reason we're having this
20 discussion tonight.

21 That is the Ameren facility, the
22 Ameren Huster Road Substation. That, the

1 groundwater from that site does not have anything
2 to do with the Operable Units 1, 2 or 3, and they
3 are covered in their own proposed plan and soon
4 to be Record of Decision as their own -- as a
5 separate Operable Unit.

6 We just put it in, included it in the
7 Findett Corporation just based on geographical
8 location only. Next slide please.

9 So the Findett/Huster Road Substation,
10 it's an active Substation. It's owned and
11 operated by Ameren Electric in Missouri. It's
12 situated, as I said earlier, in the Missouri,
13 Mississippi Alluvial valley land.

14 That's where the city of St. Charles
15 receives their drinking water. It's the Elm
16 Point wellfield. The Substation itself was
17 constructed in 1963, and it's approximately eight
18 acres. It's surrounded by a berm. It's a got a
19 locking gate, and it also has wire around it.

20 The chlorinated solvents were
21 historically used at the Substation for
22 degreasing and metal cleaning.

1 And in June of 2010 City Well 5,
2 through quarterly sampling of the well had showed
3 some hits of cis-1,2-dichloroethylene, diethylene
4 chloride, I'm sorry, dichloroethylene, DCE. Go
5 on to the next slide please.

6 So at the time we thought, we didn't
7 know that Ameren had a distinct separate plume,
8 and so we did a time critical removal action for
9 the Operable Unit 3 responsible parties to
10 investigate.

11 We thought at the time that the
12 groundwater plume that was impacting City Well 5
13 was coming from the original Findett OU1 and OU2
14 and was being pulled downgradient to the moor to
15 City Well 5.

16 But based on their investigation it
17 showed that there was clearly a contaminant
18 solvent plume that was coming from the
19 Substation.

20 The contaminants of concern that were
21 found in the groundwater were
22 tetrachloroethylene, PCE, trichloroethylene, TCE,

1 the cis-1,2-dichloroethylene, vinyl chloride,
2 1,1-dichloroethene, trans 1,2-dichloroethene,
3 acetone and toluene. Next slide please.

4 So the OU3, this came from the OU3,
5 Operable Unit 3 investigation that showed their
6 plume boundary and then a plume that was going
7 north from the Substation.

8 And you don't see it very well but
9 there are black dots that did, they did some
10 direct push groundwater sampling around the
11 Substation, and there was no contamination on
12 either the eastern, the southern or the western
13 edge of the Substation. Only on the northern
14 side. Next slide please.

15 Here's just a little closer look at
16 what that investigation showed. All the black
17 dots again, are used from a direct push,
18 Geoprobe, and it takes groundwater samples and
19 you can characterize the groundwater, what type
20 of contaminants are in it. And we already went
21 through and talked about the different types of
22 contaminants. Next slide please.

1 In December 2012, once we realized
2 that the contamination that impacted City Well 5
3 was coming from the Ameren Substation, we did
4 administrate a settlement agreement, an Order on
5 Consent.

6 And to do the following actions. They
7 had to do additional soil and groundwater
8 sampling within the Substation. They needed to
9 construct and operate a groundwater and
10 extraction treatment system. We call it the
11 GETS.

12 That would address the groundwater
13 that's both migrating, that's flowing into the
14 extraction system and then also to contain, to
15 pull back any groundwater had left at least a
16 portion the groundwater that had gone north of
17 the Substation.

18 They were also to do a removal and/or
19 treatment of the soil in, you know, within the
20 Substation and then they also needed to do an
21 evaluation of future response actions. Next
22 slide please.

1 Ameren did four pilot studies on north
2 of Substation and within the Substation. They
3 did four of them since 2014. The pilot studies,
4 they did, I believe two of them north of the
5 Substation, those primarily consisted of
6 injections of sodium permanganate.

7 It's a chemical oxidant used to remove
8 the chlorines from, say if it's trichloroethylene
9 to dichloroethylene or four chlorines to three
10 chlorines, which is tetrachloroethylene to
11 trichloroethylene.

12 And then they also did some injections
13 of zero-valent iron on the north end. So if you
14 remember on one of the figures, on the north end
15 of that plume is Highway 370.

16 They put a permeable reactive barrier
17 of zero-valent iron up there to treat any
18 groundwater that was flowing north that it would
19 be treated through this permeable reactive
20 barrier.

21 And again, that, what it is, is as
22 groundwater flows through this zero-valent iron

1 it reduces the chlorines, the four chlorines to
2 three chlorines or three chlorines to two
3 chlorines and so on down to, you know,
4 potentially vinyl chloride and ethene and ethane.

5 And then they also did pilot studies
6 within the Substation. They also injected, did
7 the injections of the sodium permanganate within
8 the Substation. They had a, of course this is an
9 active Substation.

10 So they could only do it in certain
11 areas. They can't, you know, because they have a
12 grounding grid pattern underneath the ground
13 within the Substation so, they had to be careful
14 how they did that.

15 But they did injections of sodium
16 permanganate and then they also injected a bio-
17 substrate called dehalococcoides. And what that
18 is, that's naturally occurring bacteria that's
19 already in our groundwater right now.

20 Some areas have more than others. But
21 what this is, what's nice about this, they
22 anaerobically used these. They break these

1 chlorinated solvents from again, from trivalents,
2 or not trivalents, trichloroethylene to
3 dichloroethylene and they use that as a food
4 source.

5 And not only did they use the natural
6 way of occurring dehalococcoides but they also
7 added an additional, they enhanced bio, they
8 injected additional bacteria in the groundwater
9 to help in the dissolve phase plume. To help
10 reduce the contaminant level. Next slide please.

11 Based on the pilot studies that
12 Ameren, I did, the way I did the slides was I did
13 a pre-pilot study. I wanted to show the
14 difference that the pilot studies made.

15 So the soil within the Substation, we
16 had maximum concentrations in soil of 94
17 micrograms per kilogram. Trichloroethene is 28,
18 DCE is 3,800 roughly and vinyl chloride at 1,100.

19 The ground water, the maximum
20 concentrations we had within the Substation were
21 2,500 micrograms per liter. Same with TCE
22 approximately 2,500 micrograms per liter. With

1 DCE we had dichloroethylene at 93,000 micrograms
2 per liter.

3 And then vinyl chloride, the highest
4 we had was roughly 12,100 micrograms per liter.
5 And the reason we have an estimate value on the
6 PCE and the TCE is when you take a groundwater
7 sample, you take one sample and you're going to
8 analyze it for all these different chlorines,
9 PCE, TCE.

10 And if you have one of them is
11 screaming hot like DCE, you have to dilute it
12 before you put it in to analyze it. And so, they
13 had to dilute the sample for DCE so you could
14 read the DCE so that's why the PCE and the TCE is
15 estimated. Next slide please.

16 Now we're throwing out terms,
17 micrograms per liter and, you know, five
18 micrograms, you know, what is that? So Kansas
19 City, how about the EPA. The EPA put together
20 the Safe Drinking Water Act.

21 And what that is, those are levels
22 that we call that they have decided are safe

1 levels for people to be able to drink. And PCE,
2 that level is five micrograms in one liter of
3 water. TCE is also five micrograms. DCE is 70.

4 It's all based on risk, health risk.
5 Cancer, lung cancer risk. DCE is 70 micrograms
6 per liter, vinyl chloride is 2 micrograms, DCE,
7 1,1-DCE is 7, 1,2 is 100 and toluene is 1,000
8 micrograms per liter. Those are the maximum
9 concentration limits, levels that groundwater can
10 have to be called as safe or clean. You got to
11 help me, Pam, perfect. That works perfect.

12 So what if -- no, go ahead. Go ahead
13 to the next slide. So what is 5 micrograms per
14 liter? It's hard to explain and so, you know,
15 people explain, okay, what's the national debt
16 and sometimes you'll say it's, you know, 10
17 Statue of Liberty's stacked up.

18 Well, for five parts per billion,
19 that's roughly five, you would take five one
20 dollar bills out of all of those stacks and
21 that's what's considered safe.

22 So that, hopefully that will help you

1 understand what is five parts per billion. You'd
2 have five parts in, you know, in a billion. All
3 right, next slide.

4 So after the four pilot studies, all
5 of the volatile organic compounds, the
6 contaminants a concern, the PCE, the TCE, the
7 dichloroethylene, all of them, all groundwater
8 samples north of the Substation are below their
9 MCL, their respective MCL.

10 So all of them were below 5 or 2 or 70
11 or whatever their respective MCL. Most of them
12 actually have no detections at all north of the
13 Substation.

14 Within the Substation, there are 17
15 monitoring wells within the Substation. After
16 the four pilot studies PCE was less than 5
17 micrograms. None of the wells had PCE over 5
18 micrograms per liter. So all of them were less
19 than MCL.

20 TCE, there's only one well that has
21 above the 5 and that's, there was one well that
22 has 20 micrograms per liter. There are three

1 wells however, still within the Substation that
2 has MCL that exceed the MCL for DCE.

3 And those are, there's a well that's
4 4,700, 1,400 and 158 micrograms per liter.
5 There's eight monitoring wells that still exceed
6 the MCL for vinyl chloride and those, they range
7 from anywhere from 3.4 micrograms to 1,900
8 micrograms and again, the MCL the vinyl chloride
9 is 2.

10 The majority of the contamination is
11 under Transformer 2. It's not dispersed
12 throughout the entire Substation. Most of the
13 contamination came primarily as they were doing
14 cleaning on Substation 2 just under poor
15 handling.

16 The solvent would get on the ground,
17 go into the groundwater and it would flow north
18 but most of the Substation is under Substation 2
19 or slightly north of Substation 2. Next slide
20 please.

21 The close pilot study results for the
22 soil, we had contamination before but based on

1 after the injections of the sodium permanganate
2 they, all of the soil are now below any of EPA's
3 regional screening level for both industrial and
4 residential receptors, people or --

5 So what that means, a regional
6 screening level, that means we set levels and if
7 we hit those levels then we will do additional
8 work whether that means additional investigations
9 or additional remedial actions.

10 And then if we have levels that meet
11 removal management levels, then we definitely
12 have to do an action. All of the soil samples
13 that have been taken since post-pilot studies are
14 below EPA regional screening levels.

15 So based on those actions there's no
16 further remedial, remediation of the soil
17 necessary at the Substation. Groundwater only.
18 Next slide please.

19 So here's the Substation. Right
20 roughly in the middle, I don't have a way to show
21 a cursor but on the north central portion of the
22 Substation, that's Transformer 2.

1 And that's primarily where most the
2 groundwater contamination is and then if you go
3 north to the north edge of the Substation there
4 is a rectangle building.

5 That is the groundwater extraction
6 treatment system and that is to treat water
7 before it goes offsite. All right. Next slide
8 please.

9 Now the remedial investigation we've
10 talked about a little bit, you know, we take data
11 from investigations, we create a groundwater plan
12 or a groundwater map, conceptual site model and
13 we also do a Human Health Risk Assessment.

14 And we do that to determine what is
15 the risk and is the risk at such the level that
16 we need to determine if there is a remedial
17 action. There was a Human Health Risk Assessment
18 completed.

19 And based on that data and that
20 assessment they determined that there are
21 exposure to the site contaminants concerned and
22 those are the chlorinated solvents that could

1 result in unacceptable cancer risk. Next slide
2 please.

3 Once that we completed the remedial
4 investigation, we put together a feasibility
5 study and what this is, is the Superfund Program
6 must ensure that we are using a remedy that is
7 protective of human health and the environment
8 and that it's cost prohibitive or, you know, cost
9 effective.

10 And we look at several different
11 alternatives and we look at it while each type of
12 remedial at the site.

13 So in this situation we had
14 chlorinated solvents in groundwater so, primarily
15 we looked at technologies that would treat
16 chlorinated groundwater, chlorinated
17 contamination in groundwater.

18 All right, other conditions would be
19 -- not at this site -- could be if you are at a
20 chrome plating site, well you might look at
21 alternative or technologies that would treat
22 hexavalent chromium in soil or hexavalent

1 chromium in groundwater.

2 So that's what a feasibility study is
3 and we completed that in March of 2020. Next
4 slide please.

5 Inside that feasibility study we
6 looked at objectives. What are the remedial
7 objectives that we want to receive or get to? We
8 want to make sure that we prevent exposure of the
9 contaminants concerned, the chlorinated solvents.

10 Make sure that nobody's being exposure
11 above the MCLs or groundwater. We got to make
12 sure that there is no vapor intrusion that is
13 happening at or near the site.

14 Vapor intrusion would be a situation
15 where if the groundwater went off site and went
16 underneath homes or potentially buildings,
17 commercial buildings, that the vapor that's
18 trapped underneath that might go into the working
19 area or living environment.

20 We want to, we have to make sure that
21 does not happen. We also need to make, the
22 objective was to prevent any future migration of

1 groundwater off the site. At the present time
2 there is no migration of contaminated
3 groundwater.

4 But we are making sure that no future
5 migration will go off site. And then lastly,
6 that we are going to restore the groundwater to
7 beneficial re-use, which means that you're at or
8 below the maximum contaminant level. And we
9 also, that needs to be done within a reasonable
10 timeframe. Next slide please.

11 So the three remedial actions that
12 came out of the feasibility study was no action,
13 Alternative 2 -- that was Alternative 1,
14 Alternative 2 was institute chemical oxidation.

15 That's the injections of, in the
16 situation that we used in the pilot studies was
17 injections of sodium permanganate, it's a
18 chemical oxidant.

19 Then also injections of enhanced bio-
20 augmentation, enhanced bio, the groundwater
21 extraction treatment system and institutional
22 controls. Sorry. And then Alternative 3 was the

1 same thing as Alternative 2 but not including the
2 chemical oxidation.

3 So it still has enhanced bio,
4 groundwater extraction treatment and
5 institutional controls. Next slide please.

6 So the first plan, Alternative 1, no
7 action, what that is, is we use that as a
8 baseline. That means there's no further action,
9 we're not doing anything else at this site and
10 what it is basically, is the site is left as is.
11 No additional work being done. Next slide.

12 Alternative 2, again, that is to in
13 situ chemical oxidation, enhanced bio,
14 groundwater extraction and treatment system and
15 institutional controls.

16 Now the, I broke Alternative 2 for
17 you, down into four different slides talking
18 about each one. And the ISCO or the in situ
19 chemical oxidation is the injection of the sodium
20 or the potassium permanganate, which was used in
21 three out of the four pilot studies.

22 The pilot studies showed that the

1 chemical oxidation was, using the permanganates,
2 whether it was sodium or potassium was successful
3 in reducing the site contaminants and they're
4 planning on continuing to use those. Next slide.

5 The second part of Alternative 2 is
6 the enhanced bio, that's the injection or the
7 enhancements of the dehalococcoides, which is
8 already naturally occurring. We've shown that
9 it's useful.

10 And that it's keeping the
11 contaminants, the chlorinated solvents, reducing
12 those below the MCLs. Next slide.

13 The groundwater extraction treatment
14 system, it's already been installed. It was
15 installed in 2014. It's comprised of three
16 extraction wells.

17 One of them is inside the Substation
18 and that's used to treat the water that's coming
19 to it. And then two of them are outside the berm
20 area and again, that initially was put there at
21 the very first pilot study.

22 That was part of the first pilot study

1 to try to pull back that contaminated groundwater
2 from going further north of the Substation. And
3 that extraction treatment system, those wells
4 pump it through an air stripper to remove
5 volatile organics that's coming off of it. Next
6 slide please.

7 And the last part of Alternative 2 are
8 the institutional controls. What that means is
9 Ameren will put together an environmental
10 covenant, they'll execute it and they'll file it
11 with the Recorder of Deeds.

12 And what that means, nobody can put
13 any potable water wells in that area and they
14 also cannot do any soil excavations greater than
15 10 feet.

16 They already have engineering controls
17 around the Substation. They have the dome, they
18 have locked gates and they also have the fencing
19 and the wiring. Next slide please.

20 So Alternative 3 is exactly the same
21 as Alternative 2 and what we are doing, we are
22 taking the chemical oxidation step out. And the

1 reason we're doing is that we are, when you, the
2 chemical oxidant will kill the bio-mass.

3 And so, we don't want to keep doing
4 both of those at the same time. We're showing
5 that it is a good way to treat using the enhanced
6 bio and so, we're taking out the ISCO injections.

7 And what we're going to do since we
8 already have a groundwater extraction treatment
9 system, we're going to turn off the groundwater
10 extraction treatment system for periods of time
11 to make sure we're not pulling this, the enhanced
12 bio, the bacteria into the groundwater extraction
13 treatment system.

14 What that does, it fowls up the
15 treatment system and it creates, it makes us have
16 to clean that system more often.

17 And as long as we can show that we are
18 continuing to reduce the chlorinated solvents and
19 the contaminate mass down below MCLs, we'll
20 continue just using the injections of the
21 enhanced bio.

22 If it shows that contamination's

1 concentrations are rising then we will turn on
2 the groundwater extraction treatment system for a
3 time to, until those levels go back to a
4 decreasing trend.

5 We will also turn the groundwater
6 extraction treatment system on if groundwater is
7 going off of the Substation. We've seen,
8 starting to see detections again north of the
9 Substation, then we will again, also turn the
10 groundwater extraction treatment system on.

11 So we will keep the groundwater
12 extraction treatment system as part of the remedy
13 but we will use it intermittently or as needed
14 depending upon the increasing or decreasing trend
15 of the contaminant, sorry, contaminant
16 concentration. Okay, next slide please.

17 So that's pretty much where we're down
18 to. The EPA along with the State are
19 recommending that Alternative 3 be selected for
20 the Findett/Huster Road Substation.

21 We've already shown through the pilot
22 study that the GETS system and the enhanced bio

1 does work very well together to remove the
2 groundwater concentration contaminant levels.

3 We're continuing to achieve the risk
4 reduction under the Transformer 2 and based on
5 the pilot studies so far, we've shown that the
6 concentrations have responded to treatment
7 applications and they're continuing to degrade.

8 We also believe that we will be within
9 the safe drinking water MCLs within an acceptable
10 timeframe. And I believe there's a possibility
11 that those timeframes could be less than 10
12 years. So next slide please.

13 So Pam, here's the upcoming actions.
14 Once we receive everybody's comments and after
15 the public comment period the proposed plan will
16 be, we'll put the information in a Record of
17 Decision, which I am presently drafting.

18 And the State of Missouri is also
19 helping us select, you know, finalize that remedy
20 in the Record of Decision. So Pam, if you want
21 to take it over from here, I'll hand it off.

22 MS. HOUSTON: Thanks, Clint. First

1 let me apologize to anyone that was trying to
2 join the meeting and couldn't. Thank you to our
3 handy dandy IT folks that were able to track down
4 the issue to get everyone on board in this
5 meeting.

6 At this time, we are ready to accept
7 questions and comments. However, for those that
8 joined the call late, we may need to go back and
9 reiterate some information for them, Clint.

10 Not sure, you know, what makes you
11 comfortable in how to handle that. For those
12 that are able to join and for IT, I guess this is
13 what I'm supposed to say.

14 IT please enable the microphones at
15 this time. So anyone that has joined online feel
16 free to type your name and affiliation in the
17 box, should be a chat box and followed by your
18 question or comment in the conversation chat box.

19 For those of you that are listening by
20 phone, you can unmute your phone or actually,
21 probably they better thing to do is to use the
22 raise your hand -- well on the phone you can't

1 use the raise your hand feature.

2 But unmute your line. You'll be
3 acknowledged. Please state and spell your name
4 and affiliation for the Court Reporter as well as
5 those joining online, if you could state and
6 spell your name for the Court Reporter as well.

7 And then state your question or
8 comment. And for those joining by phone, after
9 you state your question or comment if you could
10 mute your phone at the time.

11 So let's just go ahead and open it up,
12 Clint. And for those that have questions or
13 something that they've missed we can go back and
14 capture that.

15 Just tell me what slide to go back to.
16 And otherwise, the floor is now open to anyone
17 that has a question or comment.

18 MR. PROBST: Hey, Pam, this is Mike.
19 I have enabled microphones. So, attendees can
20 now unmute and ask questions. And again, for
21 everyone that did possibly join late, this
22 recording will be made available on the website.

1 MS. HOUSTON: Thank you, Mike. And
2 then let me take a look at the chat to see if
3 there are questions there. My chat is, it looks
4 distorted for some reason. Can you see the chat,
5 Clint?

6 MR. SPERRY: I can.

7 MS. HOUSTON: Okay. Are there
8 questions --

9 (Simultaneous speaking.)

10 MR. SPERRY: -- my screen.

11 MS. HOUSTON: Okay.

12 MR. SPERRY: Moving my screen a little
13 bit.

14 MS. HOUSTON: Mine is, let me close it
15 and reopen it, one sec. Okay. David from the
16 city of St. Charles. Do you have a question or
17 comment?

18 MR. CAVENDER: Yes, I do, please.

19 MS. HOUSTON: Okay. And Court
20 Reporter, Sam, I think. He spelled his name and
21 his affiliation in the chat so, I guess go ahead
22 with your question.

1 MR. CAVENDER: Well, I was one that
2 joined late. I probably didn't get logged in
3 until 6:11, 6:12 in there, and so, you may have
4 covered this but what's the relationship between,
5 you know, you talked, you know, since I joined
6 you've only talked about Ameren.

7 You know, not talked any about, you
8 know, directly about the Findett side and
9 Santolubes and theirs and then I thought that
10 that was to be the main topic of the meeting was
11 about the legal status of Santolubes so, how --

12 MR. SPERRY: No, sir. The main reason
13 for this meeting is to talk about the remedy for
14 the Ameren Site, the, you know, Ameren Operable
15 Unit, the Huster Road Substation.

16 I did talk a little bit, I didn't want
17 to spend too much time talking about the other
18 Operable Units Findett, Operable Unit 1 and
19 Operable 2 and Operable 3.

20 Because we're not talking about the
21 status, you know, of those responsible parties or
22 who's liable and who's not. That's a different

1 discussion for a different situation.

2 This is strictly for the Ameren
3 Substation and the remedy that we are proposing.
4 And we can definitely talk more later about the
5 other but that's not the purpose for this
6 meeting.

7 MS. CHICCINE: Sure. And, Clint, this
8 is Cathie, I'm happy to jump in real quick. Just
9 to clarify, the Ameren Road Substation has a
10 different source contamination than the remainder
11 of the Findett site.

12 So, the only issue with -- that's why
13 we're talking about Ameren here. So, it's,
14 although it's kind of, they're all part of the
15 Findett Site, this is a different contaminant
16 plume.

17 So, we don't have to worry about the
18 other, the remainder of the site, regarding this
19 proposed plan. If that helps explain it.

20 But if you have any further questions,
21 you can feel free, Clint's right, we're not
22 talking about liability right now.

1 But feel free, I'm happy to discuss at
2 another time and I can, feel free to call or
3 email me. My contact information is in there
4 somewhere. And I'm Cathie Chiccine, the Site
5 Attorney.

6 MS. HOUSTON: Okay. David, does that
7 address your comment?

8 MR. CAVENDER: Yes.

9 MS. HOUSTON: Okay. And if you're --
10 looks like you've joined online. Her information
11 is at the bottom of the screen that's showing
12 now.

13 I'm looking at another comment in the
14 chat from Nick with the City of St. Charles, the
15 City would like more monitoring wells between the
16 Substation, contamination site and City Wells 8
17 and 10. Clint, can you speak to that?

18 MR. SPERRY: So, we can definitely
19 talk about that more and I understand the
20 situation through some of our quarterly calls.
21 That's not something that we are going to
22 necessarily, wouldn't change anything from the

1 remedy we're proposing.

2 When you propose a remedy, you don't
3 have to necessarily say how many wells you're
4 going to have and how many times you're going
5 monitor it but, you know, but the types of remedy
6 it is.

7 And that is something that, Nick, we
8 can talk about some more. I would like to have
9 some discussions with the City and the State and,
10 you know, and EPA and Ameren.

11 To talk about, you know, the potential
12 need or understanding the situation of how City
13 Well 10 may have a draw from, you know,
14 groundwater that's near or under the Substation.

15 But again, that, at least the way I
16 see that, that's not something that we're talking
17 about from a, you know, a remedy standpoint. But
18 it's a discussion that we definitely need to have
19 between, you know, the groups that I just
20 mentioned.

21 MS. HOUSTON: Okay. Nick, does that
22 address your question, comment? Okay, I'm

1 assuming that it does. Is there anyone on the
2 phone line that has a question?

3 You can unmute your line at this time.
4 State your name, spell your name and your
5 affiliation and your question or comments.

6 For those that are on the phone line,
7 you will need to press Star six on your phone to
8 unmute. Thank you, IT.

9 Okay, hearing no questions by phone,
10 any other questions from those that have joined
11 online? You can type them in the chat, you can
12 raise your hand or you can unmute and state your
13 question or comment.

14 For those that joined after we got
15 started, any material you would like for us to go
16 back over and cover at this time, we're going to
17 be online until 7:30, Central Standard Time. So
18 we have plenty of time to go back over any
19 material.

20 MR. SPERRY: Pam, do you want to let
21 them know they can also, how they can after this
22 call, how they can also provide comment?

1 MS. HOUSTON: Sure. If you are not
2 sure, if you don't have a question right now but
3 if you think of one later, I'll move to the last
4 slide here. It has my contact information.

5 So after the meeting, you can feel
6 free to send your questions or comments to me.
7 You can email them to Houston, H-O-U-S-T-O-N, dot
8 Pamela, P-A-M-E-L-A, @EPA.gov or you can dial our
9 toll-free number at 1-800-223-0425 and someone
10 will direct your comments to me.

11 And, Clint, I can go over that other
12 Power Point if you'd like.

13 MR. SPERRY: Sure, that would be fine.

14 MS. HOUSTON: So, while everyone is
15 thinking about their question or comment, I'm
16 going to briefly walk through, for those that
17 don't know, how to find the proposed plan and
18 additional information about public comments.

19 And I cannot see the chat or hands
20 raised so, IT, if you notice something just stop
21 me in my tracks and I'll stop.

22 So, the Findett Corporation has a site

1 profile page and it can be accessed at
2 www.EPA.gov/S-U-P-E-R-F-U-N-D/F-I-N-D-E-T-T-C-O-
3 [R-P](http://www.EPA.gov/S-U-P-E-R-F-U-N-D/F-I-N-D-E-T-T-C-O-). And when you go to that website you will
4 see what's showing below for those that have
5 joined online.

6 And if you click on the left-hand side
7 under site documents and data, you'll be directed
8 to what you see in the center of the screen.

9 And if you navigate under the
10 administrative record and click on that third
11 link that says Findett/Ameren Huster Road
12 Substation ROD 8 Documents.

13 If you click on that it will populate
14 this page and you will navigate to the third item
15 at the bottom of this screen dated 1/1/2021,
16 Findett/Hayford Bridge Road Site Proposed Plan.

17 If you click on that, the proposed
18 plan that you see on the right-hand side will
19 populate in its entirety.

20 And during the proposed plan phase of
21 the remedial process, the site team is encouraged
22 to maintain communication with the public,

1 officials and interested community members and
2 explain the remedial alternatives as Clint did
3 tonight in understandable terms and solicit
4 public input, which we're doing now.

5 So, a little bit about how to submit
6 public comments. So, the 30-day public comment
7 period will end on March the 1st, 2021. Again,
8 you can email your comments to me at
9 Houston.Pamela@EPA.gov

10 Here at my direct line or you can use
11 that 800 number. The phone number here directly
12 is 913-551-7699. You can send your comment by
13 U.S. Postal mail addressed to me at 11201 Renner
14 Boulevard, Lenexa, L-E-N-E-X-A, Kansas 66219.

15 And all substantive comments will be
16 addressed in the Responsiveness Summary as Clint
17 alluded to, which should be available in June.

18 If you're looking for additional Site
19 information, that is available on the Site
20 profile page that I mentioned earlier. It can be
21 found at www.EPA.gov/Superfund/FindettCorporation

22 A little information on the right

1 regarding public comments from the public are
2 usually noted in the record but are not directly
3 addressed or answered during the meeting.
4 Instead, EPA responses to those comments should
5 be provided in the written Responsiveness Summary
6 as we've stated.

7 The public comment period enables
8 citizens to participate in and contribute to the
9 administrative decision-making process. I
10 briefly wanted to touch on the regs.

11 So, public comment periods are
12 important because they allow the affected
13 community to provide input and be involved in the
14 wide variety of site related decisions throughout
15 the Superfund process.

16 And you can see where this is found on
17 the right-hand side of the screen for those of
18 you that are joined online. The National
19 Contingency Plan at 40 CFR Section 300 and all
20 those legalese there.

21 And then lastly, my contact
22 information again, this has the 800 number. If

1 you have questions or comments you can send them
2 either by U.S. Postal mail, by email or phone
3 number.

4 And again, the link to the site
5 profile page is listed there as well. So with
6 that, I will pause to see if any new questions
7 have come in. It looks like there's one in the
8 chat.

9 We urge continuation of remediation
10 efforts given the contamination of groundwater,
11 which is the drinking water source for the City.

12 The City maintains that groundwater
13 contamination is anything foreign to the
14 groundwater resource not only MCL violations.
15 Clint, did you want to speak to that?

16 MR. SPERRY: These are things we've
17 discussed in the past and I understand. I would
18 say at this point in time, at least my thoughts
19 are is that we'll provide a formal -- these will
20 be added in our, help me, help me, Pam, the
21 document for the --

22 MS. HOUSTON: Responsiveness Summary?

1 MR. SPERRY: There you go, thank you.
2 The Responsiveness Summary. They will be added
3 to -- all the comments that are in the chat will
4 be added to the Responsiveness Summary. So, we
5 will respond to every single one of them before
6 the Record of Decision.

7 MS. HOUSTON: Thank you, Clint. Any
8 other questions by chat or by phone? Again, for
9 those that have joined on the phone, you can star
10 six to unmute your line.

11 I see the little purple bubble but I
12 don't hear anything. Was someone trying to say
13 something? We couldn't hear you if you were. I
14 can't, IT, can we tell if that person is trying
15 to speak, if they have that purple ring around
16 their number but we can't hear them?

17 MR. SPERRY: Maybe that's a mistake.

18 MS. HOUSTON: Okay.

19 MR. SPERRY: I'm not sure who's phone
20 number, 573-280-5497 but sounds like it might be
21 a mistake. I'm not sure.

22 MS. HOUSTON: Yes, I apologize that we

1 cannot hear your comments. If you can type it in
2 the chat, I can read it for the records.
3 Otherwise, you can try unmuting again, Star six.
4 Let's see if we can hear you.

5 MR. SPERRY: Pam, I don't see her
6 phone number -- her, I don't see the phone number
7 in -- I'm sorry, there it is, it's on the side.

8 MS. HOUSTON: All right. I just
9 couldn't hear their comment if they were trying
10 to leave one. Well, hearing none, we are going to
11 stick around here for another 28 minutes.

12 So, anything anyone needs Clint to go
13 back over, anything you need me to go back over,
14 the Site Team as Clint stated is on the line if
15 you have any other questions, we're available to
16 answer any questions. Document your comments.

17 Anything anyone from the Site Team
18 want to add at this time?

19 MR. SPERRY: Guess not, nobody wants
20 to talk. They're frozen.

21 MS. HOUSTON: All is quiet.

22 MR. PROBST: Hey, Pam, this is Mike.

1 I'm just calling from my personal device. I
2 wanted to make sure the unmute feature does work.

3 MS. HOUSTON: Okay. Thanks for
4 checking that, Mike.

5 MR. PROBST: Yes, no problem. So, if
6 you did press Star six to unmute, make sure you
7 also unmuted your phone as well.

8 If you press Star six that just
9 unmuted you from the conference but you need to,
10 if you had yourself muted on the phone as well,
11 you will have to unmute that as well. Thank you.

12 MS. HOUSTON: Good to know. Anything
13 you want to go back over, Clint?

14 MR. SPERRY: We can go through the
15 slides backwards. No, thank you. I don't want
16 to bore them too bad. I mean, they can, if
17 they're dying then can, you know, they can leave
18 at any time it's whatever they choose.

19 MS. HOUSTON: Yes. Well, we will
20 still be available --

21 MR. SPERRY: Yes, we will.

22 MS. HOUSTON: -- because someone could

1 join in 20 minutes and we'll just have to be here
2 to answer their question and document their
3 comments.

4 MR. SPERRY: Yes, ma'am. But I want
5 to at least thank everyone for joining. Well I
6 want to re-thank my team for being there, I feel
7 like I'm getting an award, I want to thank my
8 mom, my dad.

9 Anyway, thank you all for your
10 support, for help on documents and just on all
11 the site work we're doing. It just seems, this
12 site work just keeps getting more and more and
13 more stuff so, anyway, I always thank my team.

14 Thank you to the State for all your
15 help and management so, appreciate it. We'll
16 move forward with the ROD, you know, this Record
17 of Decision once we're done here. I'll be
18 drafting that right up and we'll be moving that
19 through here in the next few months.

20 MS. HOUSTON: Which includes the
21 Responsiveness Summary that addresses responses
22 to the questions and comments that came in

1 tonight. And just in case you have one, feel
2 free to unmute your line at this time.

3 If you've joined by phone you can Star
4 six. Okay, there may be a question coming in the
5 chat. I see a name, Nick, is that Galla, Galla?
6 Do you have a question or a comment? Feel free
7 to type it or you can unmute.

8 MR. GALLA: Yes. Hello, this is Nick.
9 Can you hear me?

10 MS. HOUSTON: Yes. Now we can.

11 MR. GALLA: All right. So, I was
12 having problems earlier with the mic. So, the
13 Alternative 3 that's being selected, is there
14 like a timeframe on how, like effective that plan
15 would be in place?

16 Like is it a long-term plan, like five
17 years plus or is there, I guess, is there a
18 timeframe I guess with the Alternative 3 plan?

19 MR. SPERRY: Our best belief that it
20 would be maybe within 10 years. Just based on,
21 you know, I know I understand, you know, to get
22 from a high concentration down to a low one

1 sometimes that can happen fairly quickly.

2 But then just to get to, you know, the
3 low MCL sometimes you're, you know, that's the
4 part that can go on for years. We've seen really
5 good response from, you know, the chemical
6 oxidation and enhanced bio.

7 You know, we've got some wells that
8 have nothing in it now so, that to me is very
9 positive. But I definitely believe that it would
10 be a shorter timeframe.

11 We're not talking about, you know,
12 some of the timeframes that can be 30 plus type
13 years. I don't believe that.

14 MR. GALLA: Okay. And is there like
15 monitoring that goes along with the program?
16 Like is there intervals for that too, to see if
17 the MCLs are coming down?

18 Or those levels continue to come down
19 then it's a good plan but if they stay at the
20 same level or even go up is there, I guess a way
21 to modify the plan?

22 MR. SPERRY: Yes. So, we wouldn't

1 necessarily modify, you know, a decision document
2 based on how many times we're going to monitor.
3 We can that without doing that. But yes, there
4 is definitely going to be monitoring going on.

5 Right now, presently it's quarterly
6 monitoring, you know, and in the foreseeable
7 future I believe that will still stay.

8 You know, if we get into where we're
9 just barely above the MCL only on a couple wells
10 and it's internal, yes, maybe we could move that
11 to six months, you know semi-annually.

12 But versus if we got some wells that,
13 you know, let's say a well that had not been
14 impacted before or a well, let's say one offsite,
15 you know, we can definitely change that to where
16 we're doing that more often than quarterly if
17 need be just so we can know what's going on.

18 And we have our quarterly calls and I
19 expect us to be able to have these type of
20 discussions. And we'll continue to provide the
21 City all the data, you know, what's going on
22 inside and outside of the Substation and on the

1 City Wells.

2 MR. GALLA: Yes, thank you. That's
3 greatly appreciated.

4 MR. SPERRY: You're welcome.

5 MS. HOUSTON: Great. Any other
6 questions on the phone or by chats? It sounds
7 like it's tricky to get off of mute. Or can be.
8 Star six.

9 MR. PROBST: Again, this is Mike on
10 the technical side. If you are on the phone and
11 if you actually muted your phone itself, you have
12 to actually unmute that along with pressing Star
13 six, unmute yourself in the meeting.

14 So, if you muted the phone physically
15 by pressing the mute button on the phone, you'll
16 have to unmute along with pressing Star six.

17 MS. HOUSTON: Thanks for that, Mike.
18 Sam, the Court Reporter, is there anything we
19 need to go back over? Any names to capture or
20 spellings that you may need? Fantastic, thank
21 you so much.

22 MR. SPERRY: Pam, did you want to do

1 a listing of who's still on? Or do you want to
2 do that towards the, right at the very end?

3 MS. HOUSTON: I've done it like seven
4 times but I'll do another one just because you
5 asked.

6 MR. SPERRY: No, no, that's okay.

7 MS. HOUSTON: Because I wanted to be
8 sure it was working. So, this will be number
9 eight.

10 MR. SPERRY: Okay, all right.
11 Apologize everyone, it seems like with everything
12 going virtual with this pandemic, it's a learning
13 process.

14 So, we went from last year doing,
15 using Adobe to this year using Microsoft Teams.
16 And for whatever reason I'm the Guinea pig on
17 each of those for our region.

18 But anyway, apologize for some of the
19 problems we've having or hopefully we're working
20 through it.

21 Because I think, at least in the
22 foreseeable future and, Mike, you know, Michael,

1 you know better than I but Teams are what we're
2 moving to. Skype is gone and so, this is our
3 future, our new normal.

4 MR. PROBST: Yes, this is Mike. We'll
5 take lessons learned from this event and
6 implement them going forward to make sure we, you
7 know, do our best to eliminate any possible, you
8 know, conflict or confusion with future events
9 like this.

10 So, I, again, you know, this is
11 lessons learned. Overall, we just had a problem
12 with the link on the website but we were able to
13 bring people into the correct meeting after we
14 figured that out.

15 So, again, this will be a lesson for
16 IT to put out some better instructions for you
17 all to help out the attendees and moving forward
18 hopefully we'll be more successful.

19 MS. HOUSTON: Thanks everyone for your
20 patience. Oh, it looks like there's something in
21 the chat. Let's see.

22 Valerie Wilder wrote, Missouri

1 Department of Natural Resources Superfund Staff
2 would like to thank everyone at EPA for all the
3 work to host this virtual public meeting.

4 And we appreciate all the coordination
5 with Clint and the rest of the team on site work.
6 So sweet. Thank you so much.

7 MR. SPERRY: I will say to anybody
8 attending, not only, you know, do you have
9 questions about the proposed plan or the remedy,
10 if you have questions or there are things that --
11 at least I'm opening it up, hoping I'm not
12 opening up a can of worms.

13 But, you know, anything we can do
14 better or make more clear to you guys that are
15 calling in and participating. If there's, you
16 know, you put it in the chat if there's things
17 that, you know, there are problems you couldn't
18 hear or whatever.

19 We're open to trying to understand how
20 we can do things better next time. Does the
21 State want to give us any glimmer of hope for
22 another Project Manager?

1 Not that we want to lose to Chinwe.
2 We enjoy having Chinwe. I know they have two
3 people already.

4 MS. WILDER: Can you hear me now,
5 Clint?

6 MR. SPERRY: We can hear you.

7 MS. WILDER: This is Valerie Wilder.
8 We did just hire two new Project Managers but we
9 are still short one. Also, an engineer. So,
10 Chinwe and I are kind of evaluating all of the
11 sites and shuffling around responsibilities.

12 When we settle on a Project Manager
13 for Findett, you will be the first one to know,
14 Clint. We just have to make sure that we
15 distribute the workload evenly and use
16 everybody's strengths and expertise where we
17 should.

18 MR. SPERRY: Sounds good, I
19 understand. Thank you.

20 MS. HOUSTON: Any other comments,
21 questions, concerns? Have like 14 minutes left.
22 Folks are sticking with us until the end.

1 Appreciate you all. Clint --

2 MR. SPERRY: You get Jeopardy --

3 MS. HOUSTON: -- we have --

4 MR. SPERRY: -- the Jeopardy --

5 MS. HOUSTON: -- we have company. You
6 still on camera but we have company. So, since
7 there are no questions it seems about the
8 proposed plan or comment, can anyone unmute or
9 type in the chat about their experience.

10 Was it easy for them to hear and see
11 the slides? Any feedback you can provide at this
12 time would be great. To Mike's point, Mike works
13 in our Information Technology Department and
14 we're going to create a list of what could have
15 gone better.

16 So, if you know something through your
17 experience it would be great for you to share
18 that with us so that we cannot do that again. We
19 can learn from it. So, if you would be so
20 gracious, we would appreciate it. Thank you.

21 And just in case you have a question
22 or comment that you don't want to share at this

1 time, feel free to send it to me directly by
2 email at Houston.Pamela@EPA.gov or you may call
3 toll free 1-800-223-0425. Or you can unmute or
4 you can put it in the chat. Thank you. Yes,
5 great. Thanks.

6 MR. SPERRY: I assume that it'll
7 probably be halfway easy for EPA. It's more
8 probably for the people that are calling in that,
9 you know, that are not part of EPA. That's the,
10 I'm curious on how that goes.

11 MS. HOUSTON: Okay. There's a couple
12 now. I used the link Clint provided and was
13 waiting to be let into the meeting. I kept
14 trying and somehow, I finally got into the
15 meeting.

16 The sound and slides were fine. Thank
17 you so much for sharing that, we appreciate it. I
18 monitor from my home computer and personal phone,
19 both the phone and Teams experience was great.
20 Oh, thank you.

21 Only issue was the incorrect link on
22 the public website for the meeting. And so, can

1 someone from IT explain, because I know two
2 people went out and clicked the link.

3 But I thought one person said that it
4 got them here. Maybe it didn't. Can you all
5 describe what happened?

6 MR. PROBST: Yes, Pam, this is Mike.
7 And actually, that comment that you just read was
8 mine. I've actually, you know, I'm going to blow
9 Clint's mind. I've been monitoring five monitors
10 and a telephone while this has been going on.

11 I've got three monitors connected to
12 my work computer, two on my personal computer and
13 my personal cell phone that I've been monitoring
14 this event from.

15 And for whatever reason the link that
16 was published on the net Superfund site profile
17 page went to a meeting that was labeled Tentative
18 PCE Southeast Contamination.

19 So, the link that was posted on that
20 was incorrect so, and then that was the issue. I
21 will give big kudos to Michael Richards
22 (phonetic), he jumped on this quick and hopped

1 into that meeting as well and did provide the
2 correct link for people to get into this meeting.

3 But yes, so overall though, although,
4 once they were in the correct meeting it seems
5 like things went well. So, that's just one thing
6 we need to make sure to pretest that link on
7 whatever site profile page this is post on. Make
8 sure we're directing the public to the correct
9 place.

10 MS. HOUSTON: Yes. Thank you so much,
11 IT, for your quick-wittedness. Apologies to
12 everyone that was in the wrong waiting room. I
13 wish I knew how that happened.

14 I don't rightly know but apologize for
15 it all the same. And thank you so much for your
16 comments. This will be helpful for us in
17 building. And, Clint, were you going to say
18 something? I didn't mean to cut you off?

19 MR. SPERRY: No. I just had a snide
20 remark. If you want to join that public meeting
21 you have to call back in on that link in a couple
22 months. That's in Iowa.

1 So, I don't know how it happened, we
2 tried, I tried clicking that link a few days ago
3 and it was fine.

4 I don't know if something -- we were
5 doing a lot of switching here in the last minute
6 with wording and so, somehow something got
7 switched. So, we apologize.

8 MS. HOUSTON: Yes, but even with the
9 moving the words around, that shouldn't have
10 changed the link. Because the link wasn't --
11 we'll talk later. We'll debrief on it. Okay, so
12 nine minutes.

13 We have nine minutes left for the
14 public, anyone on this call to leave a comment or
15 question, I guess about anything now. Proposed
16 plan, public comment -- oh, somebody's purple.

17 MS. WILDER: This is Valerie. So, I
18 was just going to ask for those that might have
19 come in late and just some of our staff that were
20 just on kind of as a training to see how these
21 are run.

22 Is this, I can't remember if you all

1 covered it early on, is this one being recorded
2 and you're going to send out a link later?

3 MS. HOUSTON: So, yes. This meeting
4 is being recorded. Our IT folks are going to
5 download it and do whatever magic needs to happen
6 and then it's going to be loaded to the site
7 profile page. Mike, did you want to speak to
8 that? I don't know the technical-ness (phonetic)
9 behind it.

10 MR. PROBST: Yes. As far as my side,
11 I will be downloading the video upon completion
12 and providing to, I believe it's Melissa, yes.
13 And she's the one that manages the content on the
14 site profile pages.

15 So, she will be uploading the video
16 and the link to that video, to that site profile
17 page upon completion. I will be able to have the
18 video to Melissa first thing tomorrow morning.
19 So, hopefully she can have it up sometime
20 tomorrow to be able to review.

21 MS. HOUSTON: And it will be live or
22 it'll be available until the end of the public

1 comment period, which is March the 1st.

2 MS. WILDER: Okay, great. Thank you.

3 MS. HOUSTON: Thanks for your
4 question. Seven minutes, Clint, seven more
5 minutes.

6 MR. SPERRY: I'm good. You're doing
7 a fantastic job moderating. Couldn't do it
8 without you.

9 MS. HOUSTON: It's a team effort. One
10 EPA.

11 MR. SPERRY: That's right. Oh, sorry,
12 Mike and (audio interference) I thanked everyone
13 else but I didn't thank you. Thank you guys too.

14 MS. HOUSTON: So, I wanted to read
15 this for the record. It says, thanks Clint and
16 all, the U.S. EPA team for the presentation,
17 Barbara Miller from Ameren. Thank you so much
18 for your comment.

19 MR. SPERRY: Barbara is the, well
20 Ameren's the responsible party. Barbara is my
21 site contact and she's done a fantastic job of, I
22 didn't want to, I didn't say this during the

1 meeting. I was trying to keep it more just, you
2 know, what the remedy was for.

3 But Ameren did a really good job.
4 They typically, on a normal investigation, you
5 know, when you're doing a remedial investigation,
6 we have to do a settlement agreement with the
7 responsible party to get them to do the work.

8 And then, you know, so we do this
9 CERCLA Superfund process of our remedial
10 investigation and a feasibility study. And then
11 we do a proposed plan and then a Record of
12 Decision.

13 And then you do a Consent Decree to do
14 the actual design and the remedial action. And
15 Ameren did a fantastic job, jumped in very, very
16 quickly and we scrambled to keep up with, you
17 know, to try to catch up the CERCLA documents
18 with all the work that had been done.

19 And as probably most people know, you
20 know, they started this process back in 2014 and
21 have been doing this for going on seven years.
22 And we're just now getting to a proposed plan.

1 And that is definitely not typical so,
2 they voluntarily, you know, did the work and it
3 made it easier in some ways that, you know, we
4 had, fortunately we came, I mean, we reviewed the
5 State and EPA reviewed all the documents.

6 You know, the pilot studies and the
7 work plans and the proposals and COCs and the
8 field safety plans and, you know, we would read
9 all that and approve them but we didn't have
10 these CERCLA documents like a RIFS, you know, to
11 document this work.

12 So, we were kind of in some ways
13 playing catch up but it was nice that we
14 fortunately have a remedy that has shown that it
15 works. And so, it made it, to me it made it
16 easier to come up with, you know, a proposed
17 alternative when you already have one in front
18 that's working.

19 So, you know, I didn't say that
20 earlier but I appreciate all the work the Ameren
21 has done and so, thank you. Oh, I got four more
22 minutes to talk. No, I'm done.

1 MS. HOUSTON: Thanks for sharing that,
2 Clint. Anyone else? And everyone on the line has
3 more than four minutes. You can send your
4 comments or questions to me by email or toll free
5 at 1-800-223-0425 through March the 1st as it
6 relates to the public comment period for the
7 Findett Site.

8 MR. SPERRY: So, Pam, we have two
9 hours and 35 minutes' worth of, when did we start
10 this recording?

11 MS. HOUSTON: Mike started it, I think
12 at 6:00. I'm pretty sure of it.

13 MR. PROBST: Well, that's at 5:00.

14 MR. SPERRY: I got into the room at
15 5:00 p.m. early. So, it may go back to that
16 actual time.

17 MR. PROBST: Yes, actually the
18 recording, I actually clicked the record button
19 at about three minutes after six. So, the
20 recording will only include from that point
21 forward.

22 So, it was actually right after I did

1 my intro that I clicked or the overview that I
2 clicked the record button so, all the important
3 information will still be there.

4 MR. SPERRY: Okay.

5 MS. HOUSTON: Thanks, IT. We couldn't
6 have done this without you. Two more minutes.
7 Folks are hanging in with us.

8 MR. SPERRY: I know. I think they're
9 required.

10 MS. HOUSTON: Are they?

11 MR. SPERRY: I won't let my Site Team
12 go until the last minute. Okay. You guys, Mike
13 and Pam, try anything you guys need tomorrow or
14 whenever we're wrapping this thing up just, you
15 know, as always let me know. I know we'll do a
16 kind of an after-action meeting. Pam, I'll let
17 you set all that up.

18 MS. HOUSTON: Yes. I'll try to do it
19 sooner than later because as time goes by you
20 start forgetting things. So, we need to do it
21 while it's fresh.

22 MR. SPERRY: Yes. I'm sure it would

1 be helpful.

2 MS. HOUSTON: Yes, for all of us and
3 moving forward. And, so a tip to you, Clint,
4 because you were the first virtual public meeting
5 since the pandemic on Adobe Connect.

6 You are now the first virtual public
7 meeting on Microsoft Teams. So, you're right.
8 You're the one that breaks down the newness, I
9 guess. So, with that, it's now 7:30 Central
10 Standard Time.

11 Thank you, everyone for joining us.
12 Thank you everyone for sticking with us and my
13 information is still on the screen. Thank you so
14 much to the Court Reporter that joined us, for
15 the IT support, the City, the PRP, everybody, the
16 Site Team. Thanks everyone.

17 With that we can now disconnect and
18 IT, I don't know what I was supposed to say
19 because I didn't write that down. We can stop
20 recording, the meeting is adjourned. Is that
21 what I say? I got two post-it notes, neither one
22 of them say what to tell you.

1 Thank you so much, everyone. Have a
2 good evening.

3 MR. SPERRY: Thanks, everybody. Have
4 a nice evening.

5 MS. HOUSTON: Bye-bye.

6 MR. SPERRY: All right, bye-bye.

7 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
8 went off the record at 7:31 p.m.)

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